

I do not support restrictions limiting program content on Satellite Radio. My satellite radio subscription service, XM, has pointed out that this attempt by traditional broadcasters to "protect" their business is an abridgement of XM's right to free speech. The idea that satellite broadcasters should not compete with local stations in the broadcasting of traffic and weather is ludicrous. If "locally specific content" is the issue, should the call-in programs on Satellite Radio also be barred from broadcasting phone calls on locally-specific issues? Traffic and Weather are traditionally considered part of the news, and it would be a mistake to abridge the right of satellite radio to cover news. National cable and satellite television program suppliers are allowed to broadcast weather reports for individual areas. Why should satellite radio be prohibited from doing the same thing? I urge you to deny petitions from traditional broadcasters that seek to limit programming - of any sort - on satellite radio. I urge you to reject NAB's petition 04-160.